THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati have intimated that due consideration has been given to promote Sanskrit language in Millennium programme schedule of Doordarshan. In this regard, two proposals for programmes on Sanskrit have also been received. In the 24 hour Millennium Show on 31st December, 1999, there will be some segments of Sanskrit shlokas. Films like 'Kalchkra' and 'The Indian Mind' will also dwell on the Sanskrit language.

Rules/Procedures for Promotion in Subordinate Offices

†1910. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are some proceduresiules for promotion in subordinate offices of the Ministry, alongwith the details thereof;

(b) whether these proceduresiules are properly implemented; and

(c) if so, the reasons for promoting other officials neglecting the employees of Prasar Bharati subordinate programme service cadre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Promotions to various posts in the subordinate offices of this Ministry are made on the basis of recruitment rules prescribed for the posts and on the basis of instructions issued by DOP&T and UPSC from time to time. These instructions are strictly followed while making promotions.

(c) No such case has been reported.

Doordarshan Channels on National Network

1911. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Doordarshan channels on national network;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the coverage of each channel; and

(c) the number of channels in operation for N.R.Is?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Doordarshan operates two terrestrial networks viz. DD-1 and DD-II. The terrestrial reach of DD-1 is 74.8% of the Geographical area and 87.9% of the population in India. The DD-II service is presently available in approximately sixty cities and adjoining areas. Doordarshan also operates eleven regional language channels, one Sports channel and one News channel which can be received through dish antenna/cable network throughout the country. There is one exclusive satellite channel tagetted for viewers outside India.

Termination of Services of Prasar Bharati Board Members

1912. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently terminated the services of two Prasar Bharati Board members;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(c) whether it is not a fact that by doing so Government are trying to dispense with plurality of views, the essential sprit of Prasar Bharati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Sub-section 3 of Section 6 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 provides that term of office of part-time Members shall be six years but one-third of such Members shall retire on the expiration of every second year. Subsection 5 of Section 6 empowers the President to make such provisions as he thinks fit for curtailing the term of office of some of